



BLAZE ORANGE

THE OUTDOOR GUIDE TO FORT DRUM

SPRING 2007 EDITION



PUBLISHED BY FORT DRUM'S FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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FREE FISHING ON FORT DRUM FOR EVERYONE ON MAY 19 & JUNE 23-24

Never fished before but think you'd like to give it a try? Are you an expert angler, but not sure of the opportunities on Fort Drum? Looking for something to do with the kids?

If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, Saturday, May 19 is the day for you! On this day, anglers are invited to fish in all open recreational areas on Fort Drum free-of-charge!

Also, a free fishing weekend will take place June 23-24 throughout all of New York.

A New York State fishing license will NOT be required to fish on Fort Drum May 19, or anywhere in New York on June 23-24.

A Fort Drum Recreation Permit & Access Pass is required, but it can be obtained for free at the Natural Resources Permit Office (S-2509) or through the mail for use on any of these free fishing days. A free fishing permit will be available anytime after May 1.

Those with current Fort Drum permits for other recreational activities (i.e., Hunting, Trapping, and Other) do not need a separate Recreation Permit and Access Pass to fish on these free fishing days.

For those who need equipment and can access Fort Drum, fishing gear is available for rent at Parks & Recreation, Bldg. P-11115, North Memorial Drive (772-5169).

Fort Drum is an active military installation. Recreational use is secondary to the military mission. All recreationists are responsible for knowing the laws, regulations and procedures for recreational activities on Fort Drum.

FISH STOCKING ON FORT DRUM

Each year, the NYSDEC stocks Fort Drum waters to increase recreational fishing opportunities.

In late April—early May, Black Creek will be stocked with approximately 2400 brown trout; the West Branch of the Black Creek will be stocked with 500 brook trout, and Remington Pond will be stocked with 1000 brook trout. In June, Quarry Pond will be stocked with an estimated 200 rainbow trout.

Maps designating stocking locations will be available at the Natural Resources Permit Office (S-2509) and on the Fish & Wildlife Management Program website.



One of 500 brook trout stocked in West Branch of Black Creek (off of Rte. 3A in Training Area 7) in April 2006.

BATS & BAT MANAGEMENT ON FORT DRUM

There are nine species of bats that occur in New York, all of which can be found on Fort Drum. The largest, the Hoary Bat, weighs just over one ounce (about the weight of five quarters) with a body smaller than a bar of soap.

Fort Drum's Fish & Wildlife Management Program has always placed importance on all fish and wildlife species including bats. In the Spring 2006 Blaze Orange, we provided an update on our efforts to establish an alternate roost site in the LeRay Mansion area in Fort Drum's cantonment area. We did this as a two-fold effort to reduce the number of bats in the Mansion as repairs took place, yet attempting to keep bats in the area.

Why keep bats in the area? Bats are highly beneficial as a form of natural—and very effective—insect control, especially for many pest species such as mosquitoes and moths. All bats found on Fort Drum and in New York are insectivores which means they eat exclusively insects. A LOT of insects! Each bat can eat up to 50% of its own body weight in insects each night (think of a 150 lbs person eating 75 lbs of food every day). (CONTINUED on Page 6).



Face-to-face with a Red Bat in the Cantonment Area, one of nine bat species—and the most colorful—found on Fort Drum.

QUESTIONS? CALL THE FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AT 772-9636 OR 772-4999.

2006-2007 RECREATION PERMIT & ACCESS PASS INFORMATION

NEW for 2006-2007, Fort Drum Recreation Permits and Access Passes are available through the mail.

To receive a 2006-2007 permit to access Fort Drum, send in a completed application, signed hold harmless agreement, a photocopy of a government-issued photo ID (driver's license, military ID, etc.), a photocopy of your 2006-2007 NYSDEC fishing, hunting, and/or trapping license, and the appropriate fee in the form of a U.S. Postal Service Money Order.

For the fishing, hunting, and/or trapping license, you only need to provide a photocopy of the license showing the "License/Privilege" information (i.e. tags do not have to be photocopied.)

If you are eligible for a free permit, you must submit a photocopy of the VA award letter showing a minimum 40% rating decision or a photocopy of the Native American ID card.

Although one application and hold harmless agreement must be completed for each applicant, multiple applications may be mailed in the same envelope and a single money order may be used.

Allow 1–2 weeks for processing. You will receive in the mail the Recreation Permit; Access Pass; *Fort Drum Regulation 420-3 Hunting, Fishing, Trapping and Camping*; and a Recreational Use Map.

Application forms are available to download from Fort Drum's Fish & Wildlife Management web site; or, they can be picked up at the Natural Resources Permit Office (S-2509) or Fort Drum's Fish & Wildlife Management Office (T-4848).

Permits will also still be available at the Natural Resources Permit Office. A map of the permit office and operating hours are listed on page 8.

To obtain a Fort Drum Recreation Permit in person, applicants must present a photo ID and current New York State hunting, fishing or trapping license. Transactions are cash or U.S. Postal Service money orders only.

Permit fees are based on age: youth 15 years and less and adults 70 years and older receive a free permit for all activities; youth ages 16 and 17 pay a reduced fee for all activities; persons 18 – 69 years of age pay full price (see table on right).

NO permit is required for youth 15 years and younger when fishing in the Cantonment Area (e.g., Remington Pond).

Before entering the training areas, all recreationists must first check in daily with Range Division by calling the Sportsman's Hotline at (315) 772-7153. The Sportsman's Hotline is updated at approximately 6:00 p.m., listing training areas that are open the following day. Upon leaving their permit number, recreationists may access any training area that is open for recreation that day.

Current Recreation Permits and Access Passes will expire on September 30, 2006.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS



All recreationists are responsible for knowing the laws, regulations and procedures for recreational activities on Fort Drum.

See Fort Drum Regulation 420-3 Hunting, Fishing, Trapping and Camping.

ALL RECREATIONISTS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR BLAZE ORANGE DURING ANY HUNTING SEASON

Recreationists must visibly display a minimum of 144 square inches of blaze orange on the front and back of their upper bodies and wear blaze orange headgear. Exceptions are listed in FD Reg 420-3 Paragraph 6(g).

VEHICLE PARKING IN TRAINING AREAS

All vehicles must be parked in such a manner to allow other vehicles safe passage, including not blocking access to other roads or trails not designated as recreational roads. All vehicles must be parked adjacent to training areas open for recreational use on that given day. See FD Reg 420-3 Paragraph 8(c) for more information.

FIREARMS MUST BE CASED WHILE BEING TRANSPORTED

All firearms (except pistols and revolvers) transported in a vehicle must be unloaded and cased, or unloaded and in the closed trunk of a motor vehicle. See FD 420-3 Paragraph 9(d) for more information.

SHOTGUN USE IN TRAINING AREAS 4A, 4B, & 4D

Training Areas 4A, 4B, and 4D are open to small game hunting with a shotgun and to trappers using .22 rimfire weapons outside the regular big game season.

NO FIREARMS ARE ALLOWED IN THESE AREAS FOR ANY REASON DURING THE BIG GAME HUNTING SEASON: September 17 – December 11.

FORT DRUM RECREATION PERMIT FEES

Adult Big Game Hunting:	\$10.00
Adult Small Game Hunting	\$10.00
Adult Fishing	\$10.00
Adult Trapping	\$10.00
Adult Combined Permit I (Hunting & Fishing)	\$25.00
Adult Combined Permit II (Hunting, Fishing & Trapping)	\$35.00
Adult Other Recreational Activities	\$5.00
3-Day Pass for BG or SG Hunting or Fishing	\$5.00
Youth Hunting, Fishing, or Trapping	\$6.00
Youth Combined Permit I (Hunting & Fishing)	\$15.00
Youth Combined Permit II (Hunting, Fishing & Trapping)	\$20.00
Youth Other Recreational Activities	\$3.00
Recreational Permit replacement fee	\$2.00

SPRING YOUTH TURKEY HUNT APRIL 21-22



On April 21-22, youth throughout New York State will have the opportunity to bag a turkey before the regular spring turkey season. This is the fourth year for this NYSDEC program.

Eligible hunters are youths 12-15 years of age holding a junior hunting license and a turkey permit. All youth hunters must be accompanied by an adult, as required by law for a junior hunting license. Youths 12 or 13 years old must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or relative more than 21 years old, with written permission from their parent or legal guardian; youths 14 or 15 years old must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or an adult more than 18 years old with written permission from their parent or legal guardian.

The bag limit for the youth hunt is one bearded bird. This bird becomes part of the youth's regular spring season bag limit of two bearded birds. A second bird may be taken during the regular season beginning May 1, 2007.

The accompanying adult must have a current hunting license and turkey permit. The adult may assist the youth hunter (including calling), but may not carry a firearm or longbow, or kill or attempt to kill a wild turkey during the youth hunt. Everyone hunting on Fort Drum must possess a valid Fort Drum Recreation Permit and Access Pass and normal check-in procedures apply. Fort Drum Recreation Permits are free to youth 15 years of age or younger. Check Fort Drum Regulation 420-3 for blaze orange requirements and other regulations on Fort Drum.

11TH ANNUAL FISHING DERBY FOR KIDS MAY 19 AT REMINGTON PARK



In 2006, Chris Henderson, age 9, caught this largemouth bass which was the largest fish overall for the derby.

The fishing derby is open to children 18 years of age and younger; registration begins at 11:45 am. The derby will begin at 12:00 pm and conclude at 3:45 pm, followed by an awards presentation at 4:00 pm.

The Fishing Derby is sponsored annually by the Environmental Division (Directorate of Public Works) and Parks & Recreation (Directorate of MWR).

Neither a New York State fishing license nor a Fort Drum Recreation Permit & Access Pass is required to participate in the fishing derby.

Fort Drum Parks & Recreation will have bait available for purchase at Remington Park. For those who need equipment, fishing gear is always available for rent at Parks & Recreation, Bldg. P-11115, North Memorial Dr.

In 2006, despite chilly temperatures and rain, 254 fish were caught by 80 participants. Nicer weather in 2005, brought out 122 children who caught 582 fish; this total was down only slightly from 2004 when 130 children caught a record 621 fish in about 4 hours.

Participants are reminded the fishing derby will be 'catch and release' again this year. Complimentary brochures, information and activity books are also available at the event.

Prizes for the derby are generously provided by AAFES.

Derby Contests

Largest Fish

Largest Fish Overall
Ages 6 and under
Ages 7 to 11
Ages 12–18

Most Fish Caught

Most Fish Overall
Ages 6 and under
Ages 7 to 11
Ages 12–18

Longest Cast

Ages 6 and under
Ages 7 to 10
Ages 11–14
Ages 15-18

SMALL GAME HUNTING BROCHURE AVAILABLE



The Fort Drum's Fish & Wildlife Management Program created a new small game hunting brochure in 2005.

The brochure highlights the popular small game species, including wild turkey, provides sexing and aging hints, and discusses what habitats these animals are likely to be found in. There is also a map that identifies some of the more dominant stands of preferred habitat for many of the small game species. However, hunters are likely to find wide distributions of animals throughout the installation. A larger map is available to view at the Natural Resources Permit Office (S-2509) and the Fish & Wildlife Management Program Office (T-4848).

Education Classes Are Mandatory For First-Time Hunters/Trappers

All first-time hunters and trappers must pass a safety and education course before they can get a license in New York State. Courses are free-of-charge and are administered by the NYSDEC. For course descriptions, visit the NYSDEC website:

<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/sportsed/index.html>

To find a course in your county, call the regional Sportsman Education office at (315) 785-2544.

ANGLING ON FORT DRUM

The brochure *Angling on Fort Drum* provides directions to 25 angling sites on 12 different bodies of water on Fort Drum. Descriptions of the various fish communities are included along with info on the use of canoes and boats.

The angling brochure is available at the Natural Resources Permit Office (Bldg. S-2509), Parks & Recreation (Bldg. P-11115) and the Fish & Wildlife Management Program Office (Bldg. T-4848), or can be downloaded from the Fish & Wildlife Management Program website.

FUSA Blvd. is now open allowing relatively easy access to Indian and Narrow Lakes, Indian Pond, Quarry Pond, and Mud Lake.

However, due to construction on FUSA Blvd., some of the directions in the *Angling on Fort Drum* brochure have changed:

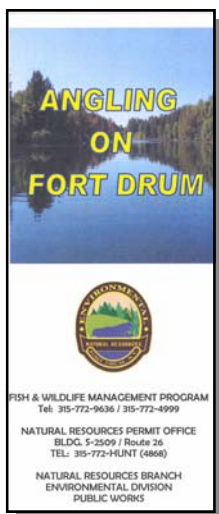
- A new boat ramp on the north end of Indian Lake (Angling Site #26) has been constructed off of FUSA Blvd. However, boaters should be aware that this is a carry-in boat launch for canoes or small boats and backing a trailer down to the water should NOT be attempted.
- Angling Site #24 in the brochure no longer exists.
- Access to the Indian River from the causeway and the area of the new bridge (Angling Site #20) has been enhanced.
- There is also no longer an alternative trail (an old logging road/trail) beyond the beaver pond adjacent to FUSA Blvd. and Indian Pond (Angling Site #21).

Check the Angling Brochure on the Fish & Wildlife Management Program web site for corrections.

Fishing can occur on Fort Drum 24 hours a day except in permanently restricted areas and Remington Pond where fishing is permitted in accordance with park operating hours. However, anglers engaged in nighttime fishing activities must check in and check out at Range Division (772-7152), Bldg. P-4855 in accordance with FD Reg 420-3 Paragraph 5(c) to obtain a Fort Drum Nighttime Fishing/Overnight Camping Pass.

A Joint Access Policy exists on Fort Drum to allow anglers access to training areas that are otherwise closed when Range Division determines angling will not interfere with military training. To use the Joint Access Policy, anglers MUST check-in with Range Division telephonically (772-7152) or physically (Bldg. P-4855) to speak to Range Division personnel.

Angling Tip: Lead sinkers and jigs inadvertently lost by anglers are harmful and potentially fatal to loons, swans and other waterbirds when ingested. Waterbirds may eat fish that still have a hook and sinker attached or mistake fishing weights for stones and grit that normally help a bird digest food. **Be considerate to the environment and use non-lead sinkers and jigs.**

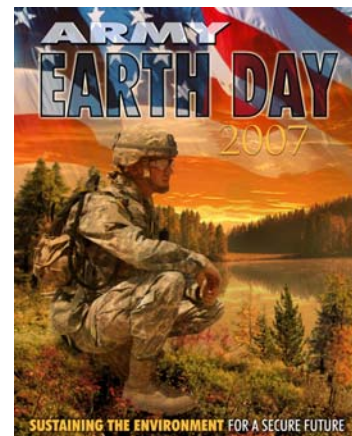


FORT DRUM EARTH DAY

Come to Lloyd's Landing (next to the beach) at Remington Park on Friday, April 20 to celebrate Fort Drum's 6th Annual Earth Day.

Between 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM there will be displays, demonstrations, and tours to learn about fish and wildlife, forests, wetlands, erosion, archaeology, recycling, energy conservation, and pollution prevention.

Fort Drum's Earth Day is sponsored by the Directorate of Public Works-Environmental Division; Directorate of Morale, Welfare, and Recreation; Fort Drum Mountain Community Homes, and DPTMS-Range Division.



BIRDING ON FORT DRUM

Fort Drum provides habitat for more than 220 bird species, including 27 listed by New York State as endangered, threatened, or of special concern.

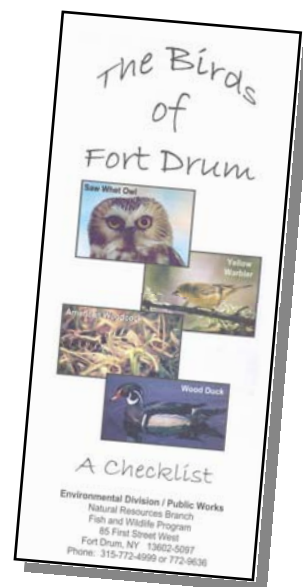
Fort Drum was featured in the July/August 2006 issue (Vol 18 No. 4) of *Winging It*, the newsletter of the American Birding Association as a part of its regular series *Birding on DoD Lands*. The article can be downloaded from Fort Drum's Fish & Wildlife Management Program web site.

The *Birds of Fort Drum* brochure is also available to be downloaded from the web site, or it can be picked up at the Natural Resources Permit Office (S-2509) or the Fish & Wildlife Management Program Office (T-4848).

Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day May 12

Since 1993, the seasonal journeys of migratory birds have been celebrated. The theme for 2007 is "*Birds in a Changing Climate.*"

For more information, visit:
www.americanbirding.org/
or <http://www.blrdday.org/>



FORT DRUM BEAR PROJECT UPDATE



One of three cubs born to Bear #036 staying warm under biologist's coat February 2006.

The black bear research project that has been on-going the past two summers on Fort Drum is winding down to a close.

The study was initiated in 2004 by Fort Drum's Fish & Wildlife Management Program (in cooperation with Cornell University, the NYSDEC, and Fort Drum's Range Division) in response to complaints of nuisance black bears interfering with military activities at bivouac sites and range facilities.

A graduate student from Cornell University has conducted the research, primarily during the summers of 2005 and 2006.

There were three components to the project. First, bears were captured using culvert traps or foot snares, tranquilized, marked with colored ear streamers and radio collars, and tracked to determine movements and den site use. Second, hair snares (barbed wire surrounding a bait station) were used to collect hair samples; the DNA on the hair follicles were analyzed by a lab to identify individual bears and create a population estimate. Third, taste aversion techniques were being tested to determine possible non-lethal management

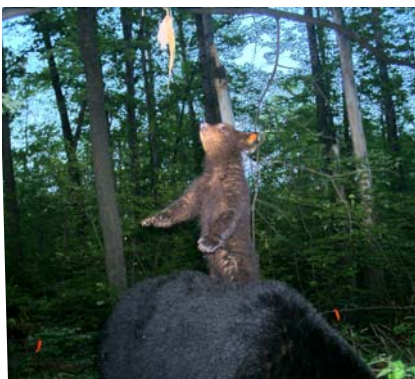
options for nuisance black bears on Fort Drum.

During the project, a total of 17 bears were captured and released unharmed. Fifteen bears were large enough to be radio-collared, unfortunately, 5 lost their radio collars and 1 died of unknown causes. Five marked bears were killed during the hunting season. A total of 6 bears were tracked for periods long enough to obtain adequate home range information. Of these, 5 were females that had home range sizes ranging from 9.96 – 22.27 km² (2460 – 5502 acres); 1 male had a home range size of 119.00 km² (29,407 acres). These home range sizes do not include movements of the four bears tracked off the installation—one female was near Theresa for two months before returning to Fort Drum where she was killed during the hunting season; one male traveled to north of Croghan where he was later killed during the hunting season; and two adult males traveled to Adirondack Park near Cranberry Lake and Star Lake—approximately 25 miles from Fort Drum.

A total of 397 hair samples were gathered at 38 barbed wire hair traps during the summer of 2006. DNA analysis from the hair samples resulted in identifying 47 individual bears. Utilizing two different population models, the estimated number of bears in the study area ranged from 58 to 69 bears. Extrapolating this density to all 107,000 acres of Fort Drum results in a total population estimate ranging from 98 – 117 bears on Fort Drum.

As for nuisance bears that were the driving force behind this project, 2005 and 2006 were both summers with an abundance of natural foods on Fort Drum and across New York State. Although this was great for wildlife (as well as fish and wildlife managers having to deal with nuisance bears), it made testing taste aversion techniques almost impossible. A total of 7 bears were treated, but the results were inconclusive.

The final den sites will be located in March 2007 and the final results will be completed by the end of this year.



A cub standing on the back of its mother investigating the remains of a bait at one of the bait stations in June 2006.

FORT DRUM HARVEST INFORMATION

UNOFFICIAL NUMBERS BASED ON
INFORMATION FROM NYSDEC

2006 DEER HARVEST

Regular	178
Archery	45
Muzzleloader	50
Deer Management Permit (DMP)	179
Deer Management Assistant Program (DMAP) Permit	18

	Adult	Fawn	Total
Male	212	52	264
Female	165	41	206
TOTAL	377	93	470



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!™

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Clean all recreational equipment.

www.ProtectYourWaters.net

When you leave a body of water:

- Remove any visible mud, plants, fish or animals before transporting equipment.
- Eliminate water from equipment before transporting.
- Clean and dry anything that comes into contact with water (boats, trailers, equipment, clothing, dogs, etc.).
- Never release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1) Preferred foraging habitat of bats are wherever flying insects are found—over streams, in floodplain forests, and impounded water bodies (ponds, wetlands, reservoirs, etc.). Bats will also forage within the canopy of upland forests, over clearings with early successional vegetation (e.g. old fields), along borders of croplands, and along wooded fencerows.

Unfortunately, negative attitudes and misperceptions have resulted in people purposely killing entire colonies of bats while they are hibernating (and most vulnerable), or destroying roost sites either directly because bats were known to exist, or indirectly by clearing land for development. These actions have caused dramatic declines in many bat species, and as a result, some bats have become imperiled to a point where they need both state and federal laws protecting them to ensure their continued survival.

The Indiana Bat is one such imperiled bat species and has been protected under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) and New York state endangered species protection laws since 1967. Although primarily found in Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee, 9% of the entire population (or approximately 35,000 Indiana bats) are found in New York.

Indiana bats spend the winter hibernating in caves (called a hibernacula). The closest known hibernacula has approximately 2000 bats near Watertown, NY—approximately 6 1/2 miles (as the bat flies) from Fort Drum. While hibernating, Indiana bats tend to form a very tight cluster so that 250-300 bats are in one square foot!



The bat house installed in 2004 near the LeRay Mansion in Fort Drum's Cantonment Area. Capable of housing 800-1000 bats at one time, in 2006, 600 bats were counted flying out in a single night.

BATS ON FORT DRUM

Big Brown Bat	(<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>)
Silver-haired Bat	(<i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i>)
Red Bat	(<i>Lasiurus borealis</i>)
Hoary Bat	(<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>)
Little Brown Bat	(<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>)
Small-footed Bat	(<i>Myotis leibii</i>)
Keen's Bat	(<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)
Indiana Bat	(<i>Myotis sodalis</i>)
Eastern Pipistrelle	(<i>Pipistrellus subflavus</i>)



Bat #709, the male Indiana bat, that was radio-tagged and tracked roosting on Fort Drum in August 2006, confirming the presence of the first federally endangered species on the installation.

Indiana bats typically emerge from the hibernacula in mid-April. They will immediately begin to look for places to forage and roost (to sleep, rest, and raise young). Indiana bats have been known to travel over 300 miles from their hibernacula, however, in NY, 30 miles or less appears to be typical travel distance. Indiana bats roost in trees generally ≥ 5 inches diameter at breast height (DBH- diameter of the tree measured 4.5 feet from the ground) that have loose bark, cracks, crevices, or cavities. Female Indiana bats typically establish maternity colonies (where groups of females live together and raise their young) in larger trees, generally ≥ 9 inches DBH. The structure of the tree is more important than the species of the tree.

Like most bats, Indiana bats will give birth to a single pup in late spring- early summer. The young bat is capable of flight about 4 weeks after birth. Indiana bats actually mate in early fall prior to hibernation. The female will store the sperm of the male until the following spring in a process called delayed fertilization.

Not surprisingly there is abundant habitat—both for roosting and foraging—throughout Fort Drum for all 9 bat species. However, it wasn't until August 2006 when Indiana bats were confirmed roosting and foraging on the installation.

The Department of Defense is not exempt from environmental regulations. As a federal agency, the U.S. Army and Fort Drum must comply with the Endangered Species Act and ensure its actions do not negatively affect the Indiana bat to ensure its continued survival. Fort Drum is currently working closely with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's New York Field Office to ensure its obligations are being met.

One of the actions Fort Drum is doing currently to ensure no roosting bat is harmed, is to restrict tree cutting to occur after October 1 and before April 15 (while the bats are hibernating). Beginning May 2007, Fort Drum will also be undertaking an installation-wide mist-net survey where bats are captured and identified. Indiana bats that are captured will be fitted with a radio transmitter and tracked to determine roost sites.

Stay tuned for further developments!

AMERICAN WOODCOCK ON FORT DRUM



American Woodcock (Photo USFWS)

Every spring, the sound of male woodcock “peenting” can be heard throughout Fort Drum near sunset and into the night. Every spring since 1992, Fort Drum’s Fish & Wildlife Management Program has been driving the dark roads counting peenting woodcock.

For those unfamiliar with “peenting,” it is part of an elaborate courtship display male woodcock perform to attract females. The male will give repeated calls, or “peents,” on the ground before launching himself skyward. As he flies spiraling upward, his wings make a twittering sound, and after reaching a height of 200-300 feet, the male starts chirping as he makes his descent in an often erratic zig-zag dive to the ground where he lands silently near a female if one is nearby. Then he will begin “peenting” again.

This conspicuous courtship display has been used by biologists across the breeding range of the woodcock as a part of annual singing ground surveys. These surveys are used to provide indices to woodcock populations trends over time.

This unique woodland-living shorebird and popular gamebird has been declining throughout its range due to habitat loss as grasslands, shrublands, and early successional forests have reverted to mature forests.

However, on Fort Drum, early successional forests are not only being recognized for their unique attributes that are fast disappearing across the landscape of northern New York, but are also being actively managed. (See Fall 2006 Blaze Orange for information on Grouse and Woodcock Management on Fort Drum.) Military training also assists by keeping certain areas in a perpetual state of early succession.

These factors along with Fort Drum’s natural topography, create abundant woodcock habitat. Not surprisingly, the woodcock population on Fort Drum is actually stable to slightly increasing over the past decade. Initially, in 1992, 104 male woodcock were heard over six routes for an average of 17.33 birds heard per route. The highest number of males heard on the installation occurred in 2005 when 271 birds were heard over 12 routes for an average of 22.58 per route. The lowest average numbers of males heard occurred in 1998 and 2001 with an average of 13.00 woodcock heard per route.

These numbers of peenting woodcock on Fort Drum are some of the highest reported in all of New York and much of the eastern United States.

Although this locally (and perhaps regionally) important breeding population in a single ownership block would seem to very important in sustaining overall population numbers of woodcock, it is not considered in regional and state population assessments.

FIREWOOD PROGRAM

The sale of forest products on Fort Drum assist the Forest Management Program to meet various objectives including fuel and hazard reduction, wildlife habitat enhancement, timber stand improvement, and enhancing military training maneuverability.



The selected areas where forest product sales occur are generally accessible from either paved, gravel, or dirt roads, however, the permittee should be aware of accessibility conditions prior to purchasing the permit. Forest products permit sales are designed to meet small volume purchasing needs such as homeowner firewood.

A permit must be purchased prior to the removal of forest products. Permits are available at the Natural Resources Permit Office (Bldg. S-2509) and the Forest Management Program Office (Bldg. T-4848) during business hours.

The current rate for a full cord of firewood is \$10.00. A full cord is 4’ wide by 4’ tall by 8’ long or two full-sized pickup truck loads (8’ bed) or three loads with a short box pickup (6’ bed). **Transactions are cash only.**

The following information is required to purchase a permit: (1) Names of any and all persons engaging in harvesting forest products, as well as those accompanying harvesters; (2) full address and phone number of the permittee; and (3) license plate number, year, make, model and color of the haul vehicle. Only one haul vehicle may be used per permit. Trailers are permitted. The license plate number of the trailer is also required.

The effective date of the permit begins on the day it is issued, and lasts for 7 days. There are no exceptions. **If you fail to fill your permit for any reason there will be no refunds.**

Trees that are dead and on the ground can be harvested. A map of some designated areas is available at the Permit Office. Forest products are on a ‘first come first served’ basis. Each permit is good for the one designated subtraining area.

Harvesting forest products is not considered a recreational activity. No person shall possess a firearm, bow or other hunting implement while engaged in harvesting forest products.

Calling the Sportsman’s Hotline does **not** sign you out for access to the training area. You must call or personally check-in and check-out with Range Division daily at (315) 772-7152.

Your forest products permit is your range pass. Your permit must be in plain view on the dashboard of the haul vehicle at all times.

Forest products permits can be issued for the cantonment area to ID holders only. You are still required to check-in and out at Range Control.

If you have questions, contact Fort Drum’s Forest Management Program at (315) 772-3170.

PUBLIC WORKS/ENV DIV
FISH & WILDLIFE MGMT PROGRAM
85 FIRST STREET WEST
FORT DRUM NY 13602-5097

PRSRT STD
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- Fishing Derby at Remington Park
- Free Fishing Days
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And Much More!!

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**NATURAL RESOURCES PERMIT OFFICE
HOURS OF OPERATION**

March 30, 2007 – September 15, 2007
Tues. 3 – 5 pm
Fri. 3 – 5 pm
Sat. 8 – 10 am

The Permit Office is closed on all federal holidays.



FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
TEL: 315-772-9636 OR 315-772-4999

NATURAL RESOURCES BRANCH
ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION
PUBLIC WORKS

NATURAL RESOURCES PERMIT OFFICE

Bldg. S-2509 on Route 26
Tel: 315-772-HUNT (4868)

